

Social Studies

Miss Halvorson

amy.halvorson@goodridgeisd561.org

Welcome!

Welcome to Social Studies class! I promise I will do my absolute best to make this a fun and exciting year for you to learn and flourish as a student; all I ask in return is your respect, patience, and willingness to learn.

If you are having trouble with this class at any time, please come to me immediately so we can figure out how to improve things. If you wait until the end of the grading period, it will be too late for me to help. I will try my best to assist whenever possible so you can be successful in this class.

If at any point during the year you have any questions, comments, concerns, (class related or not) or just need to chat with someone, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Required Materials

- Notebook Paper
- Social Studies Class Textbook
- Pencil
- Chromebook

Sources for Course Information

- Miss Halvorson (face-to-face or email: amy.halvorson@goodridgeisd561.org)
- Social Studies Website:
<https://sites.google.com/goodridgeisd561.org/socialstudies-misshalvorson/home>
- Google Classroom
- Rooms

Assignment Expectations

- Name, grade, and other assignment info such as chapter, lesson, or page number located in the top left-hand corner.
- Legible handwriting-- if I can't read it, it will be counted as incorrect.
- Complete sentences-- if your answer does not begin with a capital letter and/or end with an appropriate punctuation mark, it will automatically be considered half wrong.
- No notebook 'frills'.
- No cheating/plagiarism.

- Assignments must be turned into the appropriate slot in the black tray tower by their due date. I will typically not accept emailed or “shared” assignments. All digital assignments will be expected to be turned in through the appropriate spot on Google Classroom.
 - Detailed instructions for how to successfully submit an assignment via Google Classroom can be found at [Turn in an assignment on Google Classroom](#).

Missing/Late Work

- An assignment is considered late if it is not finished by the beginning of the class period it is set to be due.
- Late work will be accepted up to one week prior to the end of the quarter.
- When a student doesn't submit a lesson on time, they miss out on being able to participate in class 'correcture', which is a major part of the learning process. Due to lack of participation, and the fact that the correct answers are posted online after we have completed the chapter assignments, 50% credit will be the best possible grade you are able to receive on late work. While this is still not a good grade, it is much better than a 0% credit when everything is said and done.
- Late work may result in zero points if it is clearly not done to the assignment's standards.
- Late work should be turned in using the late work slot designated for your grade, in the black tray tower.
 - If you are in a class that requires an online submission of an assignment, either via Google Classroom or via a 3rd party website (ex: iCivics, MissionUS, etc.), always email Miss Halvorson after you have submitted your late assignment to notify Miss Halvorson that it's completed, turned in, and ready to be graded, otherwise it will likely not be seen by Miss Halvorson.

Homework Coupons

- Homework coupons are given out by Miss Halvorson and they allow a student to turn in a lesson assignment late without a late penalty.
- Students cannot trade, buy, or sell homework coupons.
- When a student wants to use their coupon, simply staple it to the assignment they want it to be used for and turn it in the designated late work slot for their class in the black tray tower.
- Students must still complete the assignment they use their homework coupon on. The coupon simply allows the student to turn the assignment in late without a late penalty.
- Homework coupons may not be used on large class projects.

- It is the student's responsibility to keep track of their homework coupons. In other words, if you lose it, you're unable to use it.

Absent Students

- It is the responsibility of the absent student to learn of their missed assignment(s), either through their peers, online classroom resources, the assignment whiteboard, or Miss Halvorson.
- All regular assignments and their due dates are posted on Google Classroom so students are able to follow along from anywhere if they have internet access.
- Students are expected to find out what they missed either the same day they missed, or the first day they are back in the building.
- Students who miss class due to an excused absence must make-up their work within two days from the date of the student's return to school. Any work not completed within this period shall result in "no credit" for the missed assignment, or be considered "late" if the assignment is turned in after the two days.
- Students missing more than one consecutive day will only be allowed two total days to make up missing work. The amount of make-up time may be extended due to an extended illness or other extenuating circumstances.
- Students who miss class due to an unexcused absence will not be given any extra time to complete their assignments. Tests, quizzes, and in-class activities will be an automatic 0%.
- When students turn in work from a day they were absent, please turn it into the designated slot for their class' late work and write "absent" at the top of the paper to avoid any potential confusion with regular late work.

Extra Credit

- There will be random extra credit opportunities given throughout the semester, however, students are always more than welcome to approach me with an independent extra credit proposal, which I may accept, suggest changes to, or deny depending on the idea. Points will be awarded based on the effort, quality, and subject relatedness of the project.
- The "Pioneer Spirit Board" extra credit opportunity is always an option as well, but may only be utilized once per quarter.

Grading

- Each activity assigned will be given a weighted ranking of 1-5 in the gradebook; the higher the ranking, the more pull they will have on your grade. They will typically be ranked as follows:
 - Lessons from the Textbook - 1
 - Quizzes and Small Projects - 2

- Tests - 3
- Large Projects - 4
- Quarterly Projects - 5
- The only accurate place to check your grade is on [ParentVue or StudentVue](#). Please ignore the grades feature on Google Classroom, as I do not utilize that particular feature so it is inaccurate.
- Grading priority will be given to assignments that are turned in on time. This means that assignments which are turned in late will be entered into the gradebook once I have time to grade them, after I have entered all assignments that were turned in on time.

Test Retake Policy

- In order to be eligible for a retake, you must have one (single spaced) page of notes stapled to your test when it is turned in to prove that you did make an effort and study for the test the first time around.
- If I am satisfied with your page of notes for your test, you may retake it for full credit.
- Retakes are to be arranged to be taken during Homeroom or before/after school, under my supervision, and must be taken within one week of receiving their original test score.
- The highest score will be the one recorded in the grade book.

Cell Phones

- If I hear it, or see you doing anything on it without special permission, I will confiscate it and it will be delivered to the office for you to pick up at the end of the day.
- Students are not allowed to charge their phones in my classroom during class time.
- If a student leaves the classroom to go to the bathroom, or to work on missing work in the hall, they must leave their cell phone behind in the classroom, either on the back table, or on Miss Halvorson's desk, until they return to the classroom.

Other Policies

- In an attempt to instill self-responsibility in students, as well as for other practical reasons, if a student forgets something in my classroom, they have two options to get the item(s) back. They may choose to sing a simple, school-friendly song (friends may help them sing), or write 25 sentences saying "I will not forget _____ in Miss Halvorson's classroom."
- Water bottles are to be filled before class, not during class.
- Squeeze water bottles are not allowed in Miss Halvorson's classroom.
- Backpacks are not allowed in Miss Halvorson's classroom, unless given special permission.

Please acknowledge Miss Halvorson's 2023-2024 Social Studies Classroom Policies by signing below:

Student's Signature: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

(Tear off this page and turn it in to Miss Halvorson.)